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## Wasting the Public Money.

No more wasteful or unjustifiable misuse of public money has been justly chargeable to the present city administration than the item of \$100,000 for the alleged extra expenses of the Commissioners of Accounts. It has been included in the budget for this year. The recent Legislature, by chapter 1,003 of the Laws of 1895, authorized the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to increase the former appropriation for the Commissioners of Accounts from \$32,500 to \$132,500. No public exigency and no revealed benefit justified such an unusual increase. This department, at \$132,-500, now costs the people more than the Mayor's office and the Common Council combined. It costs more than is appropriated by the city in a year for the maintenance of the Register's office for all the title deeds of property in New York, more than the Sheriff's office costs, more than twice as much as the Coroners' office, and more than the city pays annually in satistaction of judgments recovered against it.

There is no pretence whatever that this in mey was actually needed in order that the Commissioners might prosecute a thorough and searching examination into the city accounts. That work is done by the Comptroller's office, and under the administration Comptrollers MYERS and FITCH it has been attended to admirably.

The fact is that two Commissioners of Accounts, both incompetent, were appointed Mr. STRONG six months ago. One subsequently resigned; the other is still at work. They promised sensational disclosures. They have found nothing; and the appropriation of \$100,000 of public money is a device for making good, by hook or crook, and crook chiefly, an unsubstantiated claim against the former city administration.

## Three Propositions.

By the provisions of Article XIV, of our State Constitution as amended last year, proposed amendments to the Constitution must be adopted by the two Houses of the Legislature; published for three months preceding the ensuing general election at which State Senators are to be voted for: ratified by both branches of the Legislature then elected; and finally submitted to the vote of the citizens of the State at the election following. In other words, an amendment to the State Constitution adopted by the Legislature of 1895 is to be published for three months prior to the election of 1895, is to be voted on by the Legislature of 1896, and, if approved, is to be submitted to the voters in 1897, and, if by them adopted, it then becomes a part of the State Constitution on Jan. 11, 1898.

Three proposed amendments to the State Constitution are submitted to the consideration of the voters this year preliminary to the election of Senators and Assemblymen. The ilrst of these amendments alters the present condition of citizenship in this State by eliminating the word "male" and by according the right of franchise to "every citizen" of the age of twenty-one, who shall have been a resident for ninety days, an inhabitant of the State for one year, a resident of the county for four months, and of his or her election district for thirty days. The second of the proposed amendments is a change of Article III., section 29, adopted last year, and which provides for the employment of prisoners, declaring that after the 1st of January, 1897, "no person in any under sentence thereto, at any trade, indus try, or occupation wherein or whereby hi work, or the product or profit of his work. shall be farmed out, contracted, given, or sold to any person, firm, association, or corporation." Furthermore, the present Constitution empowers the Legislature to provide that the products of the labor of convicts may be disposed of to the State or to a city or county, but the proposed amendment makes this mandatory and obliges the Legislature to dispose of the labor of convicts in this manner and not otherwise.

The third proposition submitted to the consideration of the voters of New York refers to the State forest preserve, and is an amendment to section 7 of Article VII. of the State Constitution as adopted last year This amendment declares that the forest lands of the State "shall not be leased, sold, or exchanged, or be taken by any corporation, public or private, nor shall timber be sold, removed, or destroyed." What the new amendment proposes is a modification of the clause adopted a year ago in order that the Legislature may authorize the leasing, in its discretion as to tenure, of not more than five acres of land to any one person for camp or cottage purposes. Also, the Legislature may authorize the exchange of lands outside of the forest preserve for lands not owned by the State within it.

The first of these amendments has, of course, the support of the advocates of woman's suffrage, or at least of so many of them as accept this proposed concession as an evidence of favorable intent to consider the claims of women to equal political rights in a friendly and satisfactory manner. The second amendment has the support of the professional labor agitators, who have found the employment of convicts in contract work to be a subject upon which they can always count with confidence for a hear. ing. The third provision seems to have, and probably has, the support of the shooters and sportsmen of the State, who have not itherso acted together in political contests, but who may not, however, be disregarded by the leaders of the two parties on The forestry amendment permits the Legislature to consolidate by exchange the present preserve, which it seems to be the overwhelming desire of the

people of the State to preserve intact. Theoretically, these three amendments spread broadcast throughout the State and submitted to all the voters during the time preceding the choice of Assembly and Senatorial candidates, will guide the voters in the choice of these, and secure from such candidates, on demand, a statement of their position, for every New York legislator chosen this year must, if present when the vote is taken, record himself in favor of, or opposed to, each of these three amendments. The voters of this year have nothing, directly, to do with the consideration of the amendments except through the agency of Senators and Assemblymen whom they will

years, these propositions, if not assented to by the next Legislature, must await determination until 1898, and, if adopted then, submission to the voters in 1899. They could then not go into effect until the 1st of January succeeding, 1900, so that it is very desirable for the advocates of these measures, or either of them, to bestir themselves in favor of the election of candidates committed to their support.

## Returning Sinners.

There is one infallible test which should be applied in the case of contesting delegations to a State Convention or any other kind of a Convention. It is this: Which

delegation has the more votes behind it? This is simply enforcing in a Convention the doctrine that the majority should rule. If any hardship is to come to one side or to the other, it should come to the side which has the less merit in the fact that it has the less popular strength. It is the minority and not the majority that should go without representation. This is outside of the question of the regularity or irregularity of the delegations. That is a nice question, only to be moved when there is no clear numerical preponderance represented by one set of the contestants. In each unit of the organization, as in the organization at large, the majority must rule.

Both in this county and in Kings county it happens that the regular Democratic organization is also clearly the representative of the great majority of Democratic voters. In fact, the disproportion between the known members of the majority and the shifty and clusive guess-work minority is ludicrous. These minorities have no right to representation in the Democratic State Convention. Shall their representatives be admitted as a favor? A favor for what? For bolting the Democratic State ticket and helping to defeat the Democratic municipal tickets? Some did the one and some did the other, and the more elastic spirits did both. Ought the just proportionate representation of the faithful majority to be scaled down for the sake of placating or rewarding the faithless?

No: if these centlemen are penitent, or if they mean to support the Democratic ticket this fall, they are welcome, whether they return provisionally or permanently. Their representatives may be allowed to sit and look on: but for the present their place is on the stool of repentance and not in the seats of the godly.

Conciliation may be carried to excess, and the things that are meet for forgiveness are not meet for reward.

### The Great Canal.

Our Nicaraguan contemporary, the Blue fields Recorder, thinks that it can forecast, from certain information it has received. some leading particulars of the report which the Engineer Board will make upon the Nicaragua Canal.

It thinks that the report will be favorable to carrying on the enterprise; but that it will criticise the former management, will propose certain minor changes in the route, and will recommend for the Atlantic terminus, instead of Greytown, Colorado Bar. at the entrance of Greytown Harbor, where a permanent opening can be made by dredging. The Board, it thinks, will report that the canal can be completed in six or seven years, and that it will cost as much as \$110,000,000.

If the Engineer Board should report favorably on the canal, we think that an estimate of \$110,000,000 as the cost of completing it would not of itself deter Congress from making it a Government enterprise according to the plan proposed. The first question which the Commission appointed under the act passed last winter had to determine was whether the project was " a gor geous bubble." as one Senator described it. or a practicable undertaking. According to its opponents, the flerce heat of the region, baking and cracking the soil, and the furious rain storms there prevailing, would not prison; penitentiary, jail, or reformatory permit the canal to be built so as to last, except at a practically ruinous cost,

Senator TURPIE, who led the opposition in Congress, took the broad ground that " no canal, with or without locks, can be built and operated within the region of the tropical rain belt and its torrent streams, at any calculable cost, or with any prospect of commercially profitable returns." He held that while the earth excavated could, in temperate climates, be used for banks and dams, it could not be so used there, as it would be cracked by the sun and washed away by torrents, and that the purchase. transportation, and use of more durable materials would be an overwhelming expense. "The difficulties," said Mr. TURPIE, lie in the dam of Ochoa, in that vast mud desert of San Carlos, in that harbor of Greytown, with an inch and a half of water on a sandy beach, and in that so-called harbor at Brito, which is an open roadstead, with no shelter, no shade." The objections to rock fill, consisting of earth and broken stones, for embankments in that climate, were also

urged by the canal's opponents. Thus the leading points made against the enterprise dealt with matters of engineering as connected with disputed facts. If, therefore, the experts who were directed to ascertain "the feasibility, permanence, and cost" of a canal, in order to guide the action of Congress, are going to report in favor of it, as a feasible project, that is a great gain. If they are competent men, if their examination has been thorough and disinterested, and if their conclusions are honest, the views which our Bluefields contemporary imputes to them are of the highest importance. If the doubts of Mr. TUB-PIE and others as to the possibility of building and maintaining a canal at all should be removed by this report, the way would be clearer for assuming Government ownership of the canal.

It is also obvious that the proposed changes may meet some of the engineering objections hitherto raised against the scheme. One of these changes, according to the Bluefields statement, would concern the Atlantic terminus of the canal; and in general the increased estimate of the cost may fairly be supposed to be due in part to obtaining that more solid construction

which was referred to in the Senate. When, many years ago, this canal was undertaken, \$50,000,000 was considered by some enthusiastic advocates as a liberal allowance for its construction. Chief Engineer MENOCAL, however, in January, 1889, estimated this cost as \$65,084,176, "without interest and contingencies." The Board of Consulting Engineers of the company revised his estimate, increased it to \$73,166,-308, and then added for contingencies enough to make their total estimate \$87,799,570. Senator Mongan, the leading advocate of the project in Congress, gave as his opinion, last winter, that, from the lessened expense of machinery, labor, and living at the present time, the cost would not exceed \$70,000,000. The Senate elect; but the State Constitution having bill made the capital stock \$100,000,000,

chosen in November from two years to three | which included the stock to be given to Nicaragua and Costa Rica and the purchase of the present company's rights. If the Engineer Board now estimates the cost of construction alone at \$110,000,000, the inwreck the project.

Some of the opponents have intimated that the cost would be \$200,000,000 or more; and one article in a rallway magazine held that the total might reach \$400,000,000. Accordingly, it would be rather a relief than otherwise to find that an estimate made for the first time by expert examiners, not interested for or against the project, had not carried the total above \$110,000,000.

Whatever may prove to be the exact figures agreed upon by the Board of Engineers, the main question must be whether the canal would pay the interest on its construction and its cost of maintenance out of the tolls it can charge. The Suez Canal, according to Senator Morgan's statement, cost \$96,000,000, and for the last ten years the dividends upon it have more than equalled 19 per cent, per annum. If the Nicaragua Canal could be built for \$110,000,000, it could afford to earn a very much smaller sum and still meet the annual interest on the bonds which the Government is to authorize for constructing it, since they require only three per cent. Senator PERKINS estimated that at a toll just half of what the Suez Canal charges the income of the canal at the start would be \$9,000,000 a year; and with an estimated outlay of \$4,000,000 for maintenance, there would be a balance of \$5,000,000. If the cost of construction and of the stock for Nicaragua and Costa Rica, with the purchase of the company's interest, should not exceed \$125,000,000, Senator PERKINS's figures would allow four per cent, for net earnings.

Such estimates of possible earnings are largely speculative, but we shall doubtless find them revised and closely studied when the conclusions of the Board of Engineers are officially made known.

#### New York Not Godless.

The Rev. THOMAS DIXON, Jr., a religious free lance of Baptist antecedents, began last Sunday at the Academy of Music a series of sermons on "The Failure of Protestantism in New York and Its Causes."

"New York, without exception," he said, "is the most godless city on the American continent;" and as evidence that its godlessness has been steadily increasing, he asserted that now it has only one church for every 4,500 of its inhabitants, though in 1840 it had one to 2,000. Half a million of the population, according to his reckoning, are "heathen, not in name and form, but in heart and spirit."

Mr. Dixon's statistics do not agree with those of the Federal census of 1890. According to that enumeration, New York had one church edifice for 2,838 of its population. That is not a very considerable falling off since 1840; and actually there has been no decrease in the proportionate provision of church accommodations. The churches added have been largely Roman Catholic, and at their different Sunday services these are filled several times over, thus furnishing accommodations for many more than their mere seating capacity represents.

Moreover, the number of religious communicants in New York proportionately to the population was greater than in the Union as a whole. Here it was more than one-third; in the country generally it was one to 3.04. The urban population of the United States is less godless than the rural, so far as the census statistics indicate.

Out of a population of 1,515,301 enumerated by the Federal census of 1890, the number of religious communicants this city was returned as 556,954. Of these, 386,200 were Roman Catholics and 170,754 Protestants, including 35,085 Jews. In the four chief cities, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Brooklyn, the Roman Catholics numbered 1,012,-968 out of a total of 1,589,898 religious communicants or members, or about twothirds. In New York they were somewha more, proportionately. In the 124 cities of the Union having a population of 25,000 and over, there was an aggregate population of 13.989,586, of whom 5,302,018 were returned as religious communicants. About three-fifths of these communicants, or 3,007,176, were Roman Catholics, though of the total of 20,812,806 communicants in the Union as a whole, the Catholics were only about three-tenths, or 6.257.871.

It appears, therefore, that in the cities generally Protestantism is at present very much feebler than Catholicism. Undoubtedly its relative strength has decreased greatly since 1840, when the vast Roman Catholic immigration began to pour in. It cannot be said to be a failure as Mr. Dixon calls it. It has only been outnumbered by this incoming of Catholics from abroad. Probably it has not held its own as well as the Catholics, having lost more proportionately to infidelity; but the Catholics also have suffered a heavy loss from the falling away of Catholic immigrants or their descendants. They are compelled to do missionary labor unceasingly in order to restrain irreligious tendencies. Upon them mainly must rest the burden of keeping religious interest alive in the cities; and that they have discharged the duty efficiently is indicated by the statistics we have given.

So far from being peculiar in its godlessness, as Mr. Dixon asserts, this city is more godly than the rest of the Union. Its religious communicants are more proportionately to the population. If he had been talking of rural Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, instead of New York, there would have been some justification for his description. In those States religious communicants are fewer proportionately than in the Union generally.

# Mr. Labouchere's Ideas.

In one particular the editor of the London Truth shines by comparison with many of his fellow Liberals. Instead of wasting time over the question how it came to pass that his party was beaten by an adverse majority of 152, he points out what measures ought to be taken if the ground lost is to be recovered at the next general election He can see nothing hopeless in the outlook. A transfer of seventy-six seats from one party to the other would annihilate the Unionist majority, and in many more than seventy-six constituencies the Unionist candidates were elected by a very small surplus of votes. Indeed, the total popular majority obtained by the Unionists throughout the United Kingdom this year was smaller by about 100,000 votes than that gained by the Gladstonians in 1892. The great difference in the effect produced on the House of Commons is due to the fact that the Gladstonian majority was concentrated, and, so to speak, united in certain geographical sections, whereas the Unionist majority was

thinly, evenly, and effectively distributed. For the Liberals to recover control of the House of Commons, and to turn that con-

LABOUCHERE, only two prerequisites: First, a reorganization of the party machinery, and secondly, a programme which for the moment shall confine itself to a reorganization of the machinery of legislation. At crease will be heavy; yet the difference is present the Liberals are in much the same perhaps hardly great enough, of itself, to disorganized and flaccid condition as they were when Mr. CHAMBERLAIN became i Radical member of Mr. GLADSTONE'S Cabinet, and, recognizing that the Liberal party was being strangled by officialdom, founded the National Liberal Association on popular lines. That Federation became for a while the chief dynamic factor in the party, but after the schism of 1880, and the seces sion of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, it fell into the hands of whips, wirepullers and officeholders. This superannuated body must, Mr. LABOUCHERE thinks, be superseded by a new organization framed on the American model, the units of which will be local assoclations, while delegates from these will constitute a national convention qualified to define the aims of the party and to designate its leaders. Such a plan is so reasonable that Americans will wonder it was not adopted long ago. It is to be adopted now. it seems, for a majority of the Radicals have withdrawn from the National Liberal Association, and have taken measures to form a new organization. Representatives of a multitude of local Radical clubs are to meet in London at a date not distant, when it is expected that not only will a definite programme be arranged, but some sweeping changes will be made in the leadership of the party.

One of Mr. LABOUCHERE's ideas has found acceptance; it remains to be seen whether the other will be received with equal favor. His second proposal is, as we have seen, that the Liberal, or rather Radical, platform shall be restricted for the present to only one plank, namely, parliamentary reform. It is idle, he says, to agitate for this, that, or the other project included in the Newcastle programme while the existing legislative machine remains unchanged. So long as the House of Lords consists of hereditary legislators, mainly great landowners or great capitalists, the Tories, who are the enemies of democracy, will be able to nullify all the progressive efforts of a Liberal Ministry formed by a majority of the House of Commons. Under these conditions, to secure a Liberal majority at a general election is as much a waste of energy as it would be to try to fill a butt with good liquor, and at the same time to retain a number of persons charged with the duty of knocking holes in its bottom. The House of Lords, however, is not the only part of the legislative machinery that needs mending. The House of Commons is elected by poor men with one vote each, and by rich men with many votes each. Moreover, the long term of residence prescribed owners or great capitalists, the Tories, who over, the long term of residence prescribed for entitling a man to vote, practically disfranchises a large number of poor men. It is also manifest that until the costs of elections are thrown on the community, and until those elected receive a salary, the House will consist mainly of rich men, or of poor men dependent for reflection on rich men. In view of these indisputable facts, it is probable enough that the British Radicals will agree heartily to the demand for the abolition of all hereditary or nominative rights to sit in the Legislature, and for a drastic electoral reform coupled with the payment of members and the devolution of

the cost of elections on the community. If such a renovation of the British legislative machinery could be effected, it, is certain that all the members of future Cabinets would be chosen from elected representatives of the people. And it is not unlikely that still another of Mr. LABOUCHERE's ideas might be carried out, namely, that the House of Commons should be relieved from the present intolerable excess of business by transferring purely local affairs to local legislatures for England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland. But would it be possible for the Radicals, no matter how thoroughly rqorganized, to obtain an irresistible majority on a programme narrowed to the one issue of legislative reform? The country was swept on such an issue in 1831, but it is tful whether the Englis yet disposed to see in the obstructions of which Mr. LABOUCHERE complains such insufferable evils as were the rotten boroughs of a former day.

It appears to be clear that no Federal law exists under which the people who killed blind old Bannack TIMEGA and wounded the lad Nimits can be tried. The United States District Attorney for Wyoming has expressed the opinion, in an official report, that the killing of the Indian was "cold-blooded murder." The United States deputy marshal asserts that the Vyoming constable and his posse of settlers 'did all they could to tempt the prisoners to escape," so as to have a justification for killing some of them. Now we shall see what the Wy sming courts and juries will do about the case.

The completion of her port at Bizerta, on the coast of Tunis, gives France a valuable navai station upon the south side of the Med! terranean. A canal, not quite a mile long, very wide, and deep enough for her heavy clads, has been cut through to a lake of great area, which serves as a land-tocked haven and port of supply and repair. Although a fresh water basin might have a still greater value, no better shelter could be asked; and it is evident that the protection of the port, the lake and the canal by fortifications can easily be secured. The work on the canal and its surroundings has been going on for three years, and that of fortifying and of constructing additional establishments of a naval station will doubtless continue for years more. Bizerta will henceforth figure prominently in the discussions of the control of the Mediterraneau.

The preparations for an unusually gay autumn have been made at the theatres. The iotels are already crowded with strangers from all parts of the Union, largely merchants who are here to buy supplies for their autumn and winter trade. Houses and apartments of all kinds are renting at fair prices and with remarkable rapidity. Landed property is selling readily for more than it ever before brought in New York, and the activity of the autumn real estate market would be even greater if owners were not holding back in the expectation of getting still higher prices for land and buildings in all the choicer situations. Lively trade and inspiriting bustle and activity in the life of the town are ahead of us.

The selection of the King of Sweden as arbiter in the Amazen boundary dispute must yet, it appears, he ratified by the two countries con-cerned, but the Paris press indicates approval of the choice there, and it was long ago reported that Brazil barred the Czar of Russia, tresumably fearing that he might have an undue preju dice or interest in favor of France. With the terms of the arbitration once fixed, the two countries ought to be able to agree on a modus rivenul for governing the disputed territory until a decision is reached.

It really begins to look as if some of the intruders in the Indian Territory would have to go. The extra session of the Cherokee Legis lature which has been called for next week will probably deal with some of these cases, in consequence of instructions said to have been received by Chief Hannis from the Interior Department, the question of indemnity for the improvements made by the trespassers who are lengthened the term of the State Senators and the House bill \$88,000,000; amounts trol to account, there are, according to Mr. to be ejected requiring to be disposed of. The life

problem is one whose solution has been attempted for years, and the disposition of Congress to secure better government and more respect for law in the Territory now makes it

urgent. The cry recently started against the American fulssionaries in China that they were stealing small children to extract oil from them," was not a new one. Seven years ago, when demonstrations were made against our missionaries in Seoul, some Chinese spread the report that they had purchased Corean children, "and, after killing them, had boiled them down for medicine." The similarity between this yarn and the placard that was posted all ever the city of Chenta, causing riots and the flight of nearly 150 of our missionaries from the upper Yangtse region, is manifest. It is easy to see, also, why the story was effective cases. The missionaries persuade children to come to their schools, possibly sometimes making mesents to them or their parents; and this is the rough basis for the friction bruited about among the people.

Two training ships, for the use of the cadets at Annapolis, and perhaps also for that of enlisted men, will doubtiess be recommended by Secretary HERRERT for construction. The Bancroft was finished not many years ago; but even before her completion it was seen that she was too small for her purpose. Sesides, it is said that the motive power of the new vessels will be wholly or chiefly sails. That may look, at first, like retrogression, as if we should drill with flint locks; but in reality it is believed that such vessels will be of high value in giving a good groundwork of instruction in seamanship

#### "Wings Galore,"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Under the above heading a Boston paper comments on the announcement in fashion papers that the modish woman in the coming season must appear in wings. This means, not that her angel pinions are now to become visible, but that she is to borrow the wings of nature's most useful and beautiful creatures, and decorate her hat, wraps, muff, and cuffs with the withered wings of dead birds, wrenched from their little quivering bodies to deck, not a South Sea Islander, but a supposedly civilized woman!

About three years ago we were told that hoons were once more to be worn. From England to California went up a cry of remonstrance.

Will not our thoughtful and merciful women, who are promised mercy as they show it, unite to prevent this remorseless slaughter? Every wing, plume, or bird's body bought this season means the killing of at least one other bird to meet fashion's demand. The movement against hoops was successful. Who will start a crusade against wings? Who will carry it on? I hope all will "speak at once," and speak much and often. Let "Anti-plumage Leagues" be formed in every town and village. If woman will not wear bird mummies, birds will not be killed for her. Isabel Spenser Freeland.

Burlington, Sept. 1.

#### He Would Let the Democracy Silde. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your

editorial in to-day's SUN, advising all Kentucky Democrats to vote for Hardin, notwithstanding his free silver views, is interesting, but not convincing; and for this reason: The Democrats opposed to Hardin cannot admit your premises, i. c., that the harm to the Nacent just before Cleveland came in and, may be, the stronal Democracy arising from the election of a Republican State Government would be greater than that caused by the triumph of Bardin.

While it is undoubtedly true that the opinions of a Governor have little direct influence on national questions, the indirect influence on national questions, the indirect influence on the stream of a Hardin.

While it is undoubtedly true that the opinions of a Governor have little direct influence on national questions, the indirect influence on the indirect influence on the proposition is always great, and in the present evenly divided state of public opinion in Kentucky on the silver senators and Representatives, who would exercise a very direct, and possibly decisive, influence on the settlement of the question at Washington. This contingency is sufficiently probable and sufficiently alarming to outweigh in the minds of many any injury to the National Democratic cause in 1808 which could possibly arise from the election of a Republican Governor in Kentucky this fail.

In other words, many Pencerate consider the defeat of the free silver heresy so important as to make it their duty to bring about this result at all hazards and wherever the question supp, whether in national or State elections, even if, in so doing, they render possible the election of a Republican President in 1806. Very respectfully.

102 WEST NINETY-THIRD STREET, Sept. 2.

THE HOUSEWIFE AND THE BURGLAR tional Democracy arising from the election of a

# THE HOUSEWIFE AND THE BURGLAR

A Harlem Wife of Ideas-A New Jersey Plan-A New York Skeptic, To the Epitor of The Sun-Sir: I live in a fist, and think my wife is the most careful woman about burglars to be found anywhere. She says that burglars are let into houses by servants, particularly into flat houses, and she is always on the lookout for them. efore going to bed she always runs a broom under the bed and pokes it around in every direction to find If there is a burglar there. She laughs at the idea that burglars can be kept out of a house by putting things against the door, for they do not come in that way, unless they are let in. When she finds or expects to feel him with her broom under the bed; and I don't know but that she is right. NEW YORK, Sept. B. HARLEM HUSBAND.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Piling bat racks. mop handles, and chair legs against the front door to give warning of attempted burgiary is a clumay method as compared with mine, and not so effectual. I keep a little terrier dog who sleeps on the ball table, and though he weighs only about ten nounds he can bark loud enough to be heard half a mite. No RED BANK, Sept. 2. A NEW JERSEY HOUSEWIFE.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Referring to Careful's" account of how his front door is barri caded, is there an instance on record where a night burglar ever attempted to gain forcible entrance to house through the front door? NEW YORK, Aug. 80, 1805.

# Was It Wifely Duty!

To the Epiton of The Sax-Sir: The article on "The Cabman and the Magiatrate," by "L" in The Sax of Sunday, is to the point. What are Magistrates for if not to punish swindlers and protect imagent people? It seems to me that another case of "A Parody Upon Justice" was printed in Friday's Scs. A Justice dis-Justice" was printed in Friday's Sex. A Justice discharges a woman, arraigned for beating another woman, simply for the reason that her "hushand ordered her to do it," and she was a dutiful wife. Would the learned Justice have "cheerfully dismissed the case" had she killed the voman, if so ordered by her husband she killed the voman, if so ordered by her husband so wishes? And will that excuse her? If it will excuse little wrongs, why not great wrongs; if may opinion, such men are entirely until for the places they hold, and the sooner they are got rid of the better it will be for the word at large.

Bustot, Sept. 2. A COSECTION WORLS.

#### A Warning About the Yacht Ruce. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I notice that some of the steamers which are advertised to carry excu

donists to see the international racht races are to cave their piers at 10 or 19:30 o'clock. As a victim of these same steamers two years ago I wish to point of these same ateamers two years ago! Wish to point out that it is physically impossible to leave this city and get out to the Septiandor Sandy Hook lightstin in half an hour. On two days in 1966 a large number of excursionists did not reach the starting point until half an hour after the yachts had started.

Intending racegoers should be careful to select a boat which will go! them down the bay in time to set the races started.

NEW Your, hept. 3.

The Earthquake Felt in East Broadway. To THE Envoy of The Stw-Sir. I distinctly fell the carthquake on Sunday morning while I was sitthe cartiquake on Suriley morning while I was altiting in a chair. It lasted but a few seconds, apparently not more than five. There was also a runbiling sound accompanying the vibration. I spoke of
it, but no one hast fest at but myself. As have experioaced five or at quakes, here and in San Franciaco, I full I could not be inlashed. My house standupon sandy soil, and in this section of the city we
have always full the shocks very distinctive.

E. W. THOMEROS, M. D.

302 East Broadway, Rept. 2. MOS EAST BROADWAY, SEDL 2.

#### Philadelphia with a Move On. From the Philadelphia Times.

The sciamatic disturbance which rolled as a wave over the city yesterday provided a novelty in city

## AFFAIRS OF THE ARMY.

The Candidates for Shoulder Straps-Tac-

ties Fort Leavenworth Prison. WASHINGTON, Sept. 3. The fate of the enlisted men who are assembled at Fort Leavenworth for examination for promotion to the grade of Second Lietenant will now soon be settled. The First and Eighth Cavalry furnish two candidates each, the Fourth, Sixth, and Seventh one each. The First and Sixth Infantry also furwish two each and the Third Fourth Fifth. Seventh, Tweifth, Sixteenth, Eighteenth, and Twenty-first Infantry and the Fifth Artillery one each. Of the candidates there are one first sergeant, one quartermaster sergeant, eight sergeants, seven corporals, and three privates. This makes an unusually large list of candidates, and if they all pass it will be some time before the last of them receive their commis-

About the middle of this month the revised

army regulations are expected to appear. As to

the new tactics, Gen. Ruger, with the aid of

Capt. Hall and Capt. Mills, has finished the re-

vision of the drill in close order, which has been somewhat simplified by a reduction in the number of movements and improved in other respects, and will now take up the open order drill. This last is considered as possessing exceptional importance, and while some move ceptional importance, and while some movements may be stricken out, more are likely to be added. The recommendations made by the infantry and cavalry boards some time ago will undoubtedly have a prominent influence in the whole revision. The amended manual of arms has already been received with general favor.

Saturday was fixed as the time for finishing the service of the provost guard at the Fort Leavemorth prison, which has been turned over to the civil authorities. However, rather more than one-third of the members of the guard will remain there under the new civil authorities, continuing their old duty, and the remainder are distributed among the infantry regiments of the army. This gain of available strength for the garrisons has been one of the arguments in favor of the transfer, and yet there are differences of opinion as to whether the new system is a wise one. Instead of a single prison there are now many small ones scattered among the different posts. Whether the change will act as a stimulus to desertion or a deterrent from it, it is too early yet to ascertain. Some expenses have to be incurred in fitting up additional quarters for prisoners at the post, and, of course, arrangements for additional food and clothing must also be made. Perhaps one tendency may be to get rid of prisoners, as far as possible, without maintaining them long at posts prior to their discharge. In spite of the gain in the number of troops available for general service, some officers question whether the army may not, within a few years, ask either to take the Leavenworth prison back or to have a substitute for it.

The show of army material at the Atlanta Exposition, prepared under the superintendence of Capt. T. H. Barry, First Infantry, will be interesting, as was the one in the Chicago World's Fair. The troops at Fort McPherson will be able to enjoy the Exposition, as they will be able to enjoy the Exposition, as they will be able to enjoy the Exposition, as they will be able to enjoy the exposition, as they will be able ments may be stricken out, more are likely to

able to enjoy the Exposition, as they will be allowed to camp in the grounds by detachments, and so will have plenty of time to see everything.

The reports of the inspection of the colleges and schools that receive military instruction have been received by Gen. Breckinridge, and show a creditable state of interest and efficiency. One of the advances noted is the making of drill compulsory in sums schools where before ompulsory in some schools, where before it was only voluntary.

The Hon, Ell Perkins Criticises The Sun. I want to expostulate against the political course of THE SES. THE SES IS a Democratic paper, but it is not standing up for the Wilson tariff-for-deficit bill like our noble Republican Times, our strictly independent Herald, and our always sure-fire World. While the tariff-for-deficit papers pride themselves

on our increased importations of foreign goods, THE SUS says, thoughtfully perhaps, it were better to make these things at home.

When the patriotic World boasts that the tariff for

deficit has let in cheap labor goods from Germany and reduced called a cent a yard. The Sev says that this Wilson tariff-for-deficit bill has increased the national debt \$800,000,000 in three years, and who is going to pay it? When the smooth tariff-for-deficit papers talk about cheaper kid gloves and Havana cigars and champague,

THE SUN says that this \$300,000,000 deficit in three years means that every man, woman, or child who reads a newspaper will have to pay \$4.30 later on. When the truthful free trade papers say wages have been raised 10 per cent, just as Cleveland goes out, THE SES sighs and says: But they dropped 25 per cent. just before Cleveland came in: and, may be, the

shrewd people are discounting the good Randall times

coming poverty, bankruptcy, silent wheels low wages, and a \$300,000,000 deficit in '91, and now they are discounting a new tariff for revenue which will bring the prosperity of 1890 back again in 1896.

When the tariff for deficit papers say we are more prosperous than in 1894, THE SUN says 1893 and 1894 were not good old Randall tariff times. We were sick unto death in 'us and '94 with your tartif for deficit. but a year ahead, in 1896, we see the good old Bandall tariff-for revenue again. We see our wages go back to '91, see our \$11,000.000,000 home market prote and then see the \$400,000,000 deficit paid off and the republic prosperous again.

i wish The Sux would stop thinking and stop saying

these things and come out square for Grover and his noble tartiff for deficit, which make us buy goods in Europe, runs us in debt, and cut wages or stop our I do wish so SEPT. S. 1895. ELI PERKINS (RANDALL DEMOCRAT).

# Tom Reed and His Wheel,

From the Levision Econog Jonena's, Grand Brach, Me., Aug. 24.—A poem in white is what Maine's big Congressman, Thomas Frackett Reed might fittingly be called when he is dressed in his snow white aweater, all ready for a ride on his glittering bicycle. The wheel arrived last week and is a beauty. It weighs but twenty-eight pounds and was designed and made especially for Mr. Reed. The machine is constructed of the best material obtainable in the market, and was made unusually strong, as the Presidential Possibility, after all his banting, even now tips the scales at 260 pounds.

The next question was what to wear while riding the bike, and at last, after much pondering. Mr. Reed purchased a white sweater. It is as white as the driven snow, and it look enough material to make a bicycle suft, bloomers and all, for some of the win-some maids here who ride a wheel. And it suits Tom to a T, and now he would not part with it for any

amount of money.

Mr. Reed declares that it is much more difficult to ride a wheel than a bucking bronco. The first of the week, while taking a lesson, the bly man came within an ace of indulging in a bath in the briny deep. At Grand Beach there is a gradual incline from the sea wall to the waters edge. Mr. Reed was tearning to ride, and was quite near the water. He was doing remarkably well on I the matructor released his hold on Thomas and told him to go it alone. No soonerhad he done so than the contrary wheel started for the breakers at a 2.50 clip, with its rider powerless to Never before had Mr. Reed ridden so far stop it. without failing of, and to the onlookers it seemed as though he would certainly go into the surf. He shouted for and states, and his consin rescued him just as the wheel was on the edge of the Atlantic

From the Rochester Union and Advertiser.

A correspondent of The Sex, referring to the death of Mr. Inman of New York in consequence of the running down of his yacht by a steamer, says that some of the steamhoate in New York Harbor habitu-ally disregard the rules of the read, and that only the vigilance of those who manage the smaller pleasure craft prevents them from being run down in the manner. This could be regulated by united action on the part of yachs owners, and the matter deserves prempt attention.

## One of the Perils of Rallocates From the St. Louis Globe Francevat. Busenistin, O., Aug. 10.—The thousand

sons at the fair yesterday missed the best part of the balloon ascension. Prof. Tolbert, the acronaut, had a reached his red lights and the parachute before he reached the ground. As seen as the professor alight of the built charged him. Tolkert flow for his life and protected by each of mall caseball appears had been of the built. narrow escape from being good by a bull in the field

I rom the Mr. Paul Dispatch, Tax firm is always American all gree,

## FORFIGN NOTES OF REAL INTEREST.

Tabiti, in the South Seas, is now lighted by elected

Prof. Huxley's widow has received a civil list neaaion of £200.
"Mataswintha," a new opera by the Polich plan st

Scharwenka, it soon to be brought out at the Grand Ducal Theatre.

Divorce business is increasing so much in the gas

hab courts that a third Judge must be added to the

Probate and Divorce division.

Mr. Gladstone's introduction to the People's plate History will be more than a mere preface; it will be kind of analytical history in itself.

Wil iam Morris's new romance, "Child Christopher and Goldlind the Fair," has just been issued in limited colition by the Kelmscott press.

Andrew Langis writing a life of John Gibson Long. hart, the son in-law and biographer of Sir Water

Scott and editor of the Puncterly Review. A subscription for the Pope has been started in Italy in commemoration of the twenty-fifth analyses, sary of the declaration of Papal Infallibility.

Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. R. McKenna have challenged any two Unionist members of the House of Commons to row a pair-our race on the Thames

Another Roman watch tower, the twenty werent in a line along the Rhine from Basel to the Lave of Constance, has just been found near Rheinfelden Nati biting, according to a French doctor, is heredi-tary. Almost one third of the French school while its bite their nails, and the girls are worse than the boys.

At Ystrad Meurig School in Wales the boys are taught Latin through Welsh. The "Pastorals" of the old founder of the school are used for that pur pose. Deposits in Irish joint stock banks increased by

£2 000 000 last year, the total amount in June being £37,500,000, while the savings banks held £7,371,000 an increase of £744,000. A professor's chair for the history of Alsace has

been founded at the Sorbonne in Parls and given to Dr. Rudolf Rems of Stramburg, a son of the Protest ant theologian and Bible critic A reated marble statue of Dr. James Martineau, on the occasion of the completion of his ninetieth rest,

is to be set up in Manchester College, Oxford, which is an unsectarian theological school. After a suspension of fifteen years the meteorolog

ical observatory on the Brocken in the Hars Moun-tains, where witches hold their Sabbath on May Day night, is to be reestablished this fall. In a recent thunder storm in England 667 flashes of lightning were counted in one hour, more than ten a minute, and 111 of these occurred inside of five minutes, being more than twenty a minute.

Robert Pollok, author of "The Course of Time," published his "Tales of the Covenanters" more than sixty years ago. The house which published the original edition of the book is now about to print a new

Spacfell, on the Isle of Man, 2,000 feet above the see level, is now ascended by means of the first mountain electric road in Great Britain. The line is four and three-quarter miles long, with a continuous gradiens of one foot to twelve.

French mutuals in France pay a tax to the State. and consequently a record of the bettings is kept. Last year Paris bet \$37,800,000 in this form alone on horseraces. There is no account of how much passed through the hands of the bookmakers and private

Bristol, which has been united with Gloucester since 1836, is to become a separate hishopric again soon, as the money needed to reëstablish the see has been all subscribed. The see was one of six established by Henry VIII. In 1549 out of the property of the dissolved monasteries.

An international bibliographical conference is now in session at lirussels, discussing the formation of an international association, the adoption of a universal classification of books on the lines approved by the American librarians, and the publication of a universal bibliographical repertory. Vorderthiersee, near Kuptein, in the Bavarian Alps

like Oberammergau, has a passion play which is per-formed every ten years. It will be played this year every Sunday will the end of Septemoer. The man who acts Judas has taken the part five times already and this year celebrates his " fifty-year Judas jubilee." Sultan Mohammed Agha Khan of Poona is indignant with the Earl of Dunmore for maligning his grandfather. In a book on the Pamirs the Earl says he granted free passes to heaven by letters addressed to "My Brother Gabriel." This, the Sultan says, is not true, yet the Earl persistently refuses to suppress

the statement. By the birth of the son of Lord Settrington, grandson of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, there are now male representatives in the direct line of four generations of Gordon-Lennozes. The Duke, who is now 77 years old, was in every Conservative Cabinet

from 1859 to 1886. Father Kerr, who died receptly in South Africa, was a grandson of the sixth Marquis of Lothian and served with distinction in the navy during the Cri-mean war. In 1867 he became a priest, and, after acting as chaplain to the Marquis of Ripon, when he was Governor-General of India, joined the Zambesi sion, where he died.

Living in the open air all summer has improved the Pope's health, which was never better than it is now. He is entirely free from the fainting spells that used to co ne upon him in the spring months and when pressed with business. Dr. Lapponi says: "If nothing unfore sound that he may well attain his hundredth year.

St. Thaddeus McCarthy has been revered now for 400 years, and the Congregation of Rites is about to decide whether his worship shall be confire was Bishop of Cork and Cloyne at the end of the fifteenth century, and badly persecuted. He died as Ivrea. In northern Italy, in 1492 on his way to Rome. appearing in a vision to the Bishop of the city at the hour of his death, and was buried in the tomb of Eusebius, with whom he has since been joined in Drayers.

An English missionary near Ispahan, in Persia, re-cently took home a young native woman, a peasant's wife, whom he had converted. Her relatives found out where she was and asked that she should be given up, but he refused. The Mohammedans then mobbed the mission house, and the Governor of the province, the Shah's son, requested the missionary to yield. He would listen neither to bim nor to the British agent, who was also called in. Finally the agent, to prevent bloodshed, had the woman taken out of the house and

restored to her friends by main force.

Kedesh, the city of Saphtail There Barak and
Deborah assembled the tribes of Israel, has been
cought for by M. E. Gautler and not found. Two spots in the valley of the Orontes were supposed to be the place, a tumulus on a spur of Mt. Lebanon near the Lake of Homs, and an island in the lake. Excavations were made in both, with the conclusion that neither is Kedesh. But on the island a series of in teresting buildings, one above the other, was found, beginning with the Byzantine period and going back through the Greece Phoenician to the bronze and

A queer Arabian Nights tale comes from the Pun-jab. A few weeks ago a party of weavers formed a narriage procession and started for a village in Ferozpore. The bridegroom was baid and blind of one eye and his father feared the bride's parents would refuse him, so the weavers advised them to present a barber's boy who was with them as the groom. The barber was dressed in the groom's wedding garments and was accepted. When the marriage was over and they had returned home. He weaver demanded his bride, but the barber refused to give her up, and now they have gone to law to settle the question.

M. Baoul Pictet, the French chemist, who has long been experimenting with intense cold, finds that phosphorescence ceases at very low temperatures. Glass tubes filled with sulphides of calcium, strontium, and bartum were exposed to the sun and then taken into a dark room where the intensity and duration of the phosphorescence was noted. After being again exposed to the sun the tuies were put into a mixture where by rapidly lowering the pressure their temperature was reduced to - 140°; they then showed no eign of phosphorescence, but after a time the upper parts of the tubes which had been least coded began to glow, and as the temperature rose the light extended, becoming at last as bright as in the first experiment

An important linguistic expedition into Africa has just been completed by the Rev. Charles Robinson. who was sent out by the Haussa association to find material for a Haussa dictionary. He first went to Tripoti and Tunis, where there are Haussa colonies, and then by way of the Niger and the Bonue reached. Kano, the commercial centre of Haussaland. In the turning from Kano to Eaga on the Niger he travered 425 indica where no European had been. He brought back 3,000 new words for a distionary, materials for a Haussa grammar, and native manuscripts contain lag history and historical and religious songs. The Hamsa is the most important impulage of northern Africa. The people who speak it extend from the Nig r region acres to Soudan, and cover a terr nearly a thousand miles square: they are very ind ous and are the only nation that Mr. Stanle; held that extremest books.

# Prepared for Anything.

First Desperado Bill, is the front gate for 3 open, and have you got same red paper of read of

bate on the fallyer Question, sir.

Fase your cough by using Dr. D. Jayan's Expenderant, a sure and helpful moddene for all thread and lung allments, and a corative for asiama. - adm.